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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 NEA-06 HA-05 SY-05 DCT-02 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 DODE-00 IO-14 /069 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6413

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E.O. 12065: XDS-4, 8/16/2000 (RUSER, CLAUS W.) OR-M  
TAGS: SHUM, AR, US  
SUBJECT: CONCERNS OF JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6398

1. [REDACTED] ENTIRE TEXT)

2. CHARGE ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF CALLED AUGUST 15  
UPON THE NEWLY-ELECTED LEADERSHIP OF DAIA, THE COLLECTIVE  
ORGANIZATION OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ARGENTINA.  
AFTER INITIAL PLEASANTRIES THE TALK TURNED TO RECENT  
THREATS AND BOMBS AT JEWISH SCHOOLS AND PLACES OF  
WORSHIP IN ARGENTINA (REFTEL). (OVER THE PAST MONTH  
THERE HAVE BEEN THREE BOMBS PLACED AT JEWISH SCHOOLS,  
TWO OF WHICH EXPLODED BUT CAUSED NO DAMAGE. THE DAIA  
LEADERSHIP POINTED OUT THAT THE BOMBS OF A RATHER  
SOPHISTICATED NATURE WERE ALL SET TO GO OFF AT A  
TIME CALCULATED TO AVOID ANY PERSONAL INJURIES. IN  
ADDITION TO THE BOMBS, DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS  
JEWISH SCHOOLS IN THE BUENOS AIRES AREA HAVE BEEN  
RECEIVING FALSE BOMB THREATS AT THE RATE OF APPROXI-  
MATELY ONE A DAY. THE DAIA, WHICH RELEASED A STATE-  
MENT ON THE BOMB ATTACKS, HAS NOT PUBLICIZED THE  
THREATS FEELING THAT TO DO SO WOULD ONLY ENCOURAGE  
MORE ANONYMOUS THREATS.)

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S2000000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

( ☒ ) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ☒ ) In Full

( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date Declassify on Reason

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3. THE DAIA LEADERSHIP DESCRIBED THE REACTION OF  
THE POLICE TO THE THREATS AND BOMBS AS BEING

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"FORMALLY CORRECT." THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW THE INVESTIGATION THAT HAS BEEN ALLEGEDLY TAKING PLACE IS GOING, OTHER THAN THAT IT HAS PRODUCED NO ARRESTS THUS FAR. THE DAIA LEADERSHIP HAS TWO HYPOTHESES TO EXPLAIN THIS SPATE OF ANTI-SEMITISM. FIRST, IT MAY BE THE WORK OF ONE OR MORE ORGANIZED ANTI-SEMITIC GROUPS THAT EXIST IN ARGENTINA. SECOND, THE AUTHORS OF THESE EVENTS MAY BE MOTIVATED BY MORE SOPHISTICATED POLITICAL PURPOSES, NAMELY TO DESTABLIZE THE VIDELA/VIOLA LEADERSHIP OF THE MILITARY AND ENHANCE THE POSSIBILITIES OF AN ALTERNATE TO VIOLA FOR THE PRESIDENCY. ACCORDING TO THIS THEORY, BY ATTACKING JEWISH INSTITUTIONS THE PERPETRATORS HOPE TO UNDERMINE VIDELA AND VIOLA'S AUTHORITY BY SHOWING THEY ARE NOT IN COMMAND. IT SEEMED CLEAR FROM THE DAIA LEADERS' REMARKS THAT THEY LEAN TO THE LATTER HYPOTHESIS THOUGH THEY ARE VERY EXPLICIT IN SAYING THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW THE FACTS.

4. COMMENT. THE CHARGE WILL BRING UP THESE ATTACKS AND THREATS IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH GOA LEADERS.  
RUSER

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